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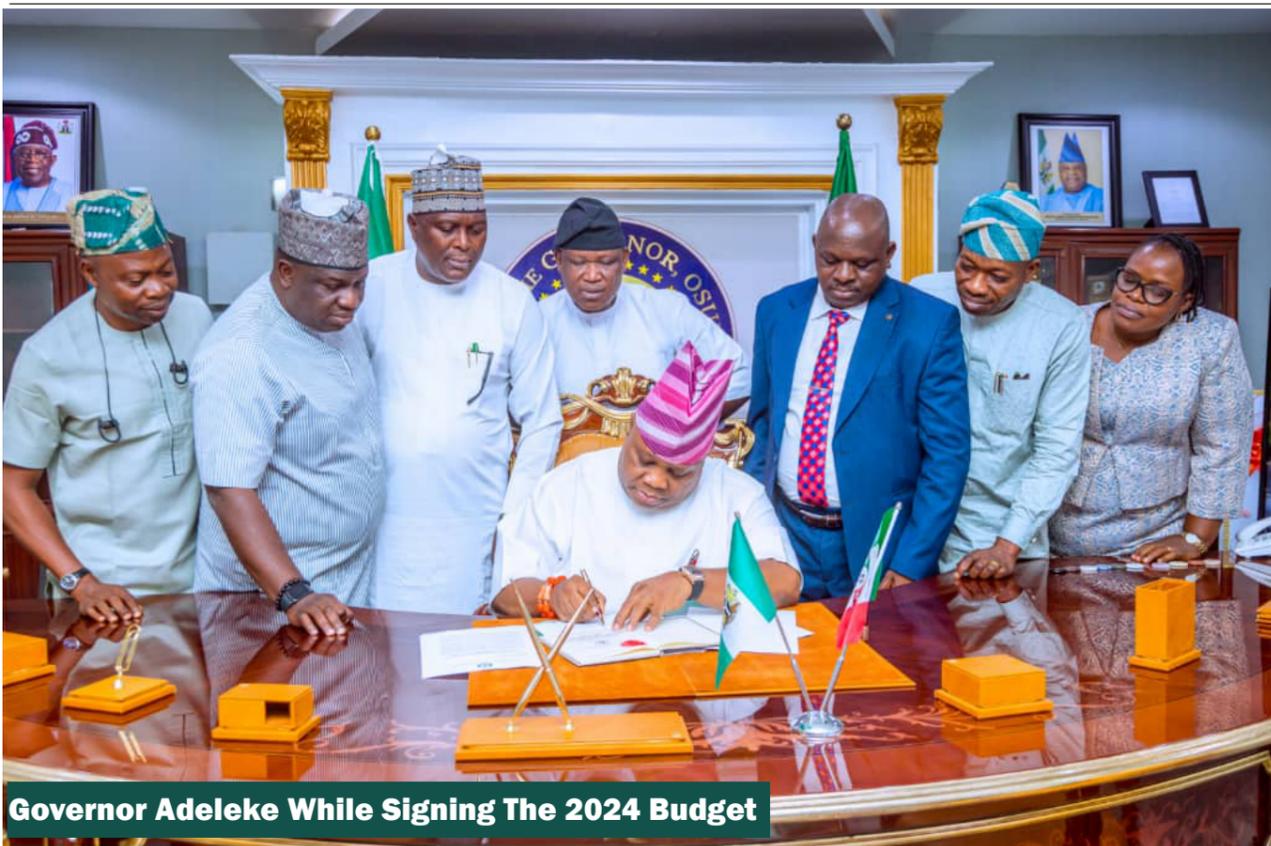
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osun Spring New Year Message

As we enter into the year 2024, Osun Spring is grateful to you our esteemed readers for the support we have gotten from you since we launched this newspaper.

It is our believe that the year 2024 is a year of reflection from the lessons of 2023 so that we can make both Osun and Nigeria a better place, this we will do by drawing lessons from the issues that bedevilled the nation in 2023 to arrive at a meaningful ending.

Osun Spring wishes to reaffirm that we are committed to delivering accurate, relevant, and thought-provoking content with our focus extending across a wide spectrum, ranging from breaking news and pertinent current affairs to the exhilarating world of sports.

In 2024, our dedicated team of writers and reporters would tirelessly conduct comprehensive coverage that captures the pulse of events and developments, ensuring that our readers are informed and engaged at all times.

We reaffirm that it is our believe that journalism is not just a business, but a public service. We believe that journalism is not just a way of reporting facts, but a way of exposing injustices, challenging corruption, and promoting



democracy. We believe that journalism is not just a matter of opinion, but a matter of evidence, logic, and fairness.

Our mission is to provide our readers with accurate, credible, and relevant information that they can use to make informed decisions and participate in civic life. Our agenda is to investigate and expose the issues that affect our society, such as human rights violations, environmental degradation, political scandals, economic inequality, social injustice, and cultural diversity. Our methods are based on rigorous

research, verification, analysis, and storytelling. Our standards are guided by the principles of honesty, integrity, independence, accountability, and respect.

Our message to Nigerians going into 2024 is to reflect on the issues that has affected us as a nation and them come together to resolve it collectively, "United we stand, divided we fall".

Political leaders should not be left alone to always figure it out, we all are a part of the nation and we'll together bare the brunch of whatever decision that is taken for us by the few that we have voted to lead us.

Osun Spring wishes to advise political office holders to as well focus on people oriented programmes, projects and policies ensuring that we are able to lift as many people as possible out of poverty.

In Osun state, the 2024 appropriation bill tagged "Budget of Reconstruction and Recovery" which was signed into law by Governor Ademola Adeleke is the focus.

Osun Spring believes that it means Osun State will see a lot of constructions as well as recovery from all the past lost and restore the glory state.

It is the view of this newspaper that the job of the monitoring and evaluation team setup by the Governor Adeleke should go beyond cabinet members in the state and extend to departments and agencies of government as well as ongoing projects in the state.

Osun Spring believes that this will ensure effectiveness on the part of officials and efficiency on the part of contractors handling projects within the state especially those handling the multibillion naira Osun infrastructure development plan of Governor Adeleke.

Happy New Year Readers.

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Our message to Nigerians going into 2024 is to reflect on the issues that has affected us as a nation and them come together to resolve it collectively, "United we stand, divided we fall".

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Feature

Atunto Osun, Araaj, Dotun Babayemi, And The Journey Of No Return

By Great Oluwaseun

The political landscape of Osun State has undergone significant shifts following the fallout between former governor Aregbesola and incumbent Governor Oyetola. This fallout led to the establishment of two parallel structures within the All Progressives Congress (APC): the Aregbesola-led faction known as the The Osun Progressives (TOP) and the Oyetola-led Ilerioluwa Group.

Simultaneously, the People's Democratic Party (PDP) was grappling with its internal crisis involving the "Anigba" faction led by former PDP South West Vice Chairman, the Late Hon. Soji Adagunodo. This crisis resulted in numerous court litigations, culminating in a legal battle that reached the Supreme Court. Both major parties, APC and PDP, entered the July 16, 2022, gubernatorial election with internal challenges.

Despite both parties facing internal turmoil, the election outcome favoured the PDP, which secured victory with over 400,000 votes, while the APC, despite garnering over 300,000 votes, lost the election. Governor Gboyega Oyetola's bid for re-election faltered due to political discord with his former boss turned adversary, Rauf Aregbesola.

The election period thrust certain individuals into the spotlight due to their roles in the crises. Dotun Babayemi, a former PDP Chieftain expelled on September 29, 2022, for alleged anti-party activities, and Raji Kehinde (Araaj), a contractor and staunch ally of former Governor Aregbesola, were among those who gained prominence.

Dotun Babayemi recently launched a cooperative society named "Atunto Osun,"



Araaj

signaling his intention to oppose the state government. The name itself suggests a political agenda aimed at garnering public support for the 2026 Osun gubernatorial elections.

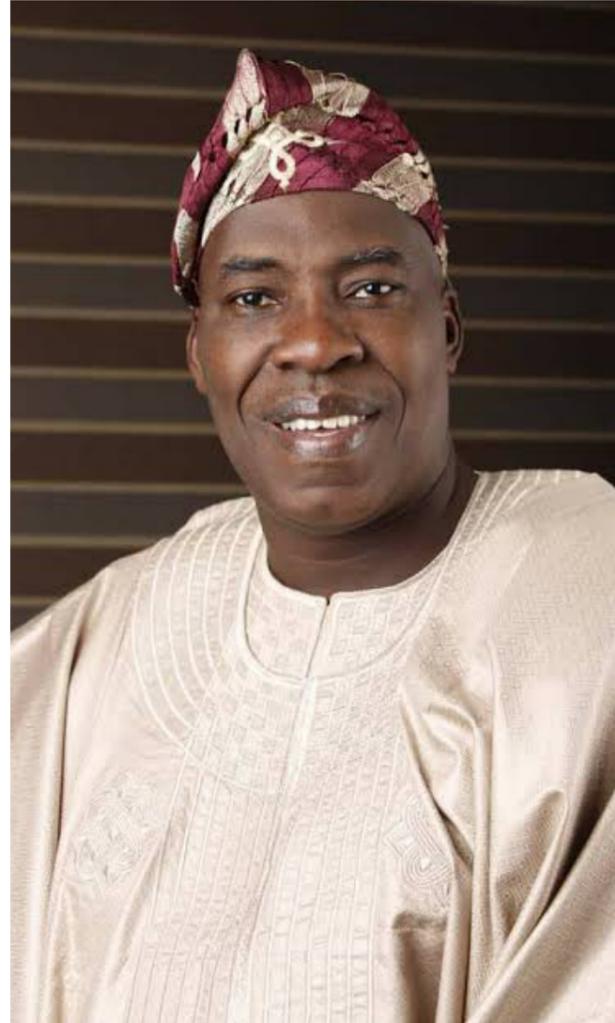
However, beneath Atunto Osun's facade of altruism lies a complex political strategy. It serves as more than just a cooperative society; it is a tool for organizing and mobilizing the masses for political ends. Its primary goal is to harness the collective power of the people and wield it against the current state government.

In parallel, Kejebu Empowerment, led by Engr. Raji Kehinde has emerged as a significant force in Osun State politics. Engr. Raji, a contractor turned politician, has focused Kejebu Empowerment on initiatives such as skills acquisition, educational support, and economic empowerment.

Similar to Atunto Osun, Kejebu Empowerment is not solely philanthropic; it is perceived to have

political objectives. Its activities are strategically aligned with certain political goals, utilizing community-focused initiatives to build a support base for political mobilization.

As Atunto Osun and Kejebu Empowerment pursue their respective agendas, the future of Osun State hangs in the balance. Will these movements succeed in empowering the people, or will they succumb to



Babayemi

the complex political dynamics at play? Only time will reveal the fate of Dotun Babayemi and others navigating the treacherous waters of Osun State politics, where the journey may lead to a point of no return.

A chieftain of the Osun All Progressives Congress who spoke to Osun Spring on the condition of anonymity noted that some leaders of the APC are just using

both Kehinde Raji (Araaj) and Dotun Babayemi to clear the bush ahead of them for 2026.

The Chieftain maintained that it is the believe of those leaders that both individuals have some level of sympathy and audience and could save the dieing Osun APC.

"We are in interesting times in the Osun APC

A time where people who were rejected from their platforms are being celebrated and empowered because our party, the Osun APC is helpless.

"We are where we are today because of the mistakes of two people who led our party for four years, former Governor, Gboyega Oyetola and the former party Chairman, Gboyega Famodun.

"Some of us had advised then that the issue that marred our party can be better handled but they didn't listen to us.

"In the case of Atunto Osun, I do not understand the idea because some of us actually disagree with

the approach but some of our leaders believe that noth Araaj and Dotun Babayemi can be used to divide the PDP further for our party to gain more ground.

"I can bet they are wrong, they believed the duo have sympathy and a level of followership but thata will not even work because this people will just be used and dumped, they will not get their exact expectation", the Chieftain said.

Another Chieftain of the PDP who didn't want to be mentioned also told Osun Spring that Raji Kehinde (Araaj) and Dotun Babayemi are on a journey of no return.

The Chieftain explained that in the political space, no one has the monopoly of winning always, you win some and then you lose some adding that when any politician feels they should win all the time, it leads to destruction.

"We have been politicians for decades and I understand the political terrain, I can as well tell when a politician is going oblivion.

"That's the exact way to describe both Araaj and Dotun Babayemi, they have missed it and instead retracing their step, they are making further mistakes on a daily basis.

"In politics, you win some and you lose some. Sometimes your opinion is accepted, sometimes your opinion is rejected, it is all politics, you can not always have it, other people will also have theirs.

"Should everybody leave when they don't have their way, who will be left? If we all have left, who would they have joined when they came we accepted them? Come to think of it, Araaj is not even a member of the PDP.

"Araaj should come out straight and chose where he belongs instead of telling lies to his followers and hiding under the canopy of a businessman and philanthropist to gain political favour.

"I can tell you that both Araaj and Dotun Babayemi are on a journey of no return except they retrace their steps.

“
In politics, you win some and you lose some. Sometimes your opinion is accepted, sometimes your opinion is rejected, it is all politics, you can not always have it, other people will also have theirs.
 ”

News

Osun 2024 Budget Of Reconstruction And Recovery

By Sola Isola

As the year 2023 winds out, Osun State Governor, Senator Ademola Adeleke presented a budget of N273.9 billion to the Osun State House of Assembly for the 2024.

Osun Spring reports that this budget is the highest in the history of Osun state as the state under the past administration had only presented N138 billion and N129.7 billion budget for 2023 and 2022 respectively.

Our correspondent reports this is the first budget that Governor Adeleke would present to the state Assembly since he assumed office in November, 2022.

Recall that four days to the inauguration of Governor Adeleke as Osun State Governor, the 5th Osun State House of Assembly under the former Speaker Rt. Hon Timothy Owoeye had passed the 2023 budget of the state as presented to the lawmakers by outgoing Governor Gboyega Oyetola whose tenure ends on Sunday.

While presenting the 2024 budget tagged "Budget of Reconstruction and Recovery" Governor Adeleke noted that the budget is made of N165.6 billion for recurrent expenditure and N108.2 billion for capital expenditure.

The Governor said "In conformity with the existing laws which stipulate that the draft Budget of the State should be presented to the House for approval before the end of the year, I am pleased to present to the honourable members of Osun State House of Assembly through the Honourable Speaker, the Draft 2024 Budget of Osun State.

Days after, Governor Ademola Adeleke hosted the State Executive Council meeting with key focus on treasury board decisions as it affects preparation for budget 2024 and landmark pronouncements on state



governance.

The meeting attended by all members of the executive council deliberated on 2024 budget proposals from the Ministries, departments and agencies as a prelude to the submission of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework to the State House of Assembly.

Addressing the Council, Governor Adeleke called for due diligence on the budget preparation process, reading out key policy directives on the

governance of the state.

In the bid to reduce cost of governance and effort to achieve the funding of the budget, the Governor directed the immediate suspension of foreign travels by top officials, urging application of virtual meetings for attendance and participation at international business and investment events.

"Foreign trips for top officials for the rest of the year is hereby suspended unless there is a direct emergency to be authorized by the

Governor", the Governor directed

Governor Adeleke further instructed that state expenditure should henceforth be focussed on implementation of critical projects across the sectors.

According to him, "we must sustain the momentum of our service delivery by avoiding excessive spending on recurrent and overheads"

He also called for personal sacrifice on the part of cabinet members, positing that cabinet members and all

members of the administration must demonstrate readiness to sacrifice in the face of the state's harsh financial situation.

"Our needs from office to accommodation are much but our resources are limited. So we have to devise a coping mechanism pending the time our funding situation will improve", he affirmed.

Subsequently, the Osun State House of Assembly has approved the N273.9 billion appropriation bill for the

2024 fiscal year in the State.

A statement by Tiamiyu Olamide, Chief Press Secretary to the Speaker, noted that the motion for the Bill to be read for the third time, which signal the Approval of the House, was moved by the Majority Leader Hon. Babajide Kofoworola who is also a member of the Finance and Appropriation Committee.

He added that the passage of the bill came after the presentation of a report by the Chairman of the House Committee on Finance and Appropriation, Hon. Olumide Fatunmise at the plenary on Wednesday, 20th December, 2023.

The statement noted further that the final copy of the Bill will be produced and forwarded to His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Osun State, Senator Ademola Jackson Nurudeen Adeleke for his assent.

Osun Spring Newspaper reports that this is aside the multibillion naira infrastructure development plan of the Ademola Adeleke administration.

Recall that Governor Adeleke had earlier announced to members of the state executive council that "Members of the Council are to also note that I will be unveiling the Administration's N100 billion Infrastructure Plan by Thursday. The plan covers roads, health, water, housing among others."

The plan had been unveiled and work has started in earnest on the Old Garage-Okefia-Lameco Road as well as Akoda Junction to Cottage Junction to Baptist High School Area, Ede.

As the year 2024 draws close, the people of Osun looks forward to further delivery of quality leadership and good governance since the budget had been tagged Reconstruction and Recovery.



The Tough Battle Akerodolu Fought With Leukemia

By Busy Brain

On Wednesday, December 27, 2023, Governor Akeredolu of Ondo State put upon a greatness trust while in active service. Arakunrin Akeredolu Aketi gave it all to death after a tough battle with leukemia and prostate cancer. Between Akeredolu and death, it was a survival of the fittest. At the end, death won. The duo of leukemia and prostate cancer inundated and left Ondo State in a somber mood and happy mood.



The oxymoron of somber and happy mood is esoteric. While his death will constitute a great loss to some people, it will amount to gains for some who have been thirsty for power and appointments. It will still amount to jubilation for those whose horses were gored during the political rumpus in the State. In whatever sides people might belong, the death that kills one's kinsmen is speaking in parables. Eventually, all living soul shall taste death.

Akeredolu in a short video clip spoke in satire while alluding to a sermon delivered by a pastor in their church. The clique in the church comprises mover of shakers of Nigeria's politics and policy. It was a conglomeration of Political big wigs. Akeredolu's remarks were about people amassing wealth for those who will spend on their behalf, he said, not only death can make people to

spend money on the owner's behalf, EFCC can equally spend money on the owner's behalf by the virtue of power conferred on them. The moment Akeredolu mentioned EFCC, the political grandeur burst into laughter. The wisdom in Akeredolu's short message was eroded with laughter. Unknowingly, death is in Akeredolu's pocket, just like every other person.

It is painful to the marrow that Aketi was the victim of his words. He amassed wealth with influence and affluence, but the depth of his wealth could not save him from death. He has left everything for those who

will spend on his behalf. Shame on money that could not be used to buy health or rig death verdict like election. Akeredolu tried all he could do to survive, but death won.

On Sunday, 27 November 2016, Akeredolu was announced by the Independent National Electoral Commission as the winner of the Ondo State governorship election. He polled 244,842 votes in the election to defeat Eytayo Jegede with 150,380 votes and Olusola Oke with 126,889 votes. He spent his first tenure and was sworn in for a second term in office on 24 February 2021. Arakunrin and his deputy, Lucky Aiyedatiwa, assumed office on the same date before 'poli-tricks' placed a discord.

During his tenure from the first term to the point of death, Aketi was at the forefront of the establishment of the Regional Security Network, Amotekun to address security concerns in the face of strong criticism and reproach. Of all his concerns, security of lives and properties remains a priority. He did all he could do for his people in terms of development. He tried his

best to serve the State. He has his flaws like every other mortal being, no one is perfect.

In the words of Isaac Asimov, American author and professor of biochemistry, "Life is pleasant. Death is peaceful. It's the transition that's troublesome." The troublesome transition has occurred and Aiyedatiwa has taken over with immediate effect. Life goes on.

American writer, Isabel Allende, Chilean posits that, "Just as when we come into the world, when

we die, we are afraid of the unknown. But the fear is something from within us that has nothing to do with reality. Dying is like being born: just a change."

No one wishes to die because the world is too much with us. The sad reality is that death is inevitable. Akeredolu has joined the rank of people who died in office just like the former Head of State, Gen. Johnson Aguiyi-Ironsi; former Military Governor of Western Region, Col. Adekunle Fajuyi; and former Head of

State, Gen. Muritala Muhammed, former President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua; former Governor of Sokoto State, Alhaji Shehu Kangiwa; and former Governor of Kaduna State, Patrick Yakowa.

Condolence to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, the Governors' Forum, the Southwest Governors, the Ondo State, the family, NBA, the Owo people for the transition of Arakunrin Akerodolu Aketi to the world beyond. He fought a tough battle with leukemia. May his soul continue to rest in peace.



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Akeredolu in a short video clip spoke in satire while alluding to a sermon delivered by a pastor in their church. The clique in the church comprises mover of shakers of Nigeria's politics and policy.

Stop the campaign of calumny against Governor Adeleke -Osun APGA to APC

By Sola Isola

The All Progressives Grand Alliance (APGA) in Osun State has warned the All Progressives Congress to desist from the recent surge in the campaign of calumny against the Governor Ademola Adeleke.

Osun APGA added that this disturbing trend has cast

a shadow on the sanctity of political discourse within the state.

In a statement obtained by Osun Spring Newspaper, Wole Adedoyin, Chairman of the Osun State chapter of APGA, expressed dismay at the tactics employed by the APC, stating that such actions are antithetical to the principles of fair and issue-based politics.

Adedoyin emphasized the need for a discourse centered on policies, achievements, and the betterment of the state rather than resorting to character assassination.

He further highlighted the commitment of APGA to promoting a healthy political environment, urging all political actors to focus on constructive engagement

and refrain from engaging in smear campaigns.

"APGA is dedicated to fostering a political atmosphere where ideas and development take precedence over personal attacks.

"We want to emphasize that the citizens of Osun deserve a campaign season marked by transparency,

accountability, and respect for the democratic process.

"We call on the APC to uphold the highest standards of political conduct, urging them to redirect their efforts towards addressing the concerns and aspirations of the electorate.

"APGA Osun affirms its unwavering support for Senator Ademola Adeleke,

we want the people of Osun to remain vigilant against divisive tactics that seek to undermine the democratic values the state holds dear.

"We remain committed to promoting a discourse that elevates the political landscape, fostering an atmosphere where citizens can make informed decisions based on merit and vision", the statement noted.



From left, Osun State Governor, Senator Ademola Adeleke, South West Governors pay condolence visit to Late Ondo State Governor, Rotimi Akereolu family.

Digital Media Week: Governor Adeleke says Online Journalism is the rave of the future

Osun State Governor, Senator (Dr) Ademola Adeleke has said that Online Journalism is not only the rave of the moment but also the rave of the future.

The Governor stated this while congratulating the Osun Online Publisher Association (OOPA) on the success of the just concluded 2023 digital media week.

In a statement by his Spokesperson, Mallam Olawale Rasheed, the

Governor equally commended online publishers in the state for being professional in the discharge of their duties.

He noted that Online Journalism is not only the rave of the moment but also of the future, adding that going into the year 2024, the Osun state government will support the association to achieve its goals.

Governor Adeleke thereafter commended the executive of the association led by their Chairman, Jare Tiamiyu, Publisher of Insight Media for being a partner in progress with the state government.

"I want to congratulate members of Osun Online Publisher Association on the success of the 2023 Osun Digital Media Week as well as for bring professional in the discharge of their duties.

"Online Journalism is not only the rave of the moment but also the rave of the future and we will support the association in achieving its goal.

"I commend the executive of the association and their chairman, Jare Tiamiyu, for being partners in progress with the state government", he said.

Nollywood, booster of national economy -Governor Adeleke

By Sola Isola

A day after hosting 2023 BON Awards in Osun state, Governor Ademola Adeleke of Osun State has described the Nollywood industry as a booster of national economy.

The Governor also unveiled his administration's plan for the creative industry inclusive of entertainment, culture and tourism.

Hosting top stars of the Nollywood industry at his country home, the state Governor opened up on his expansive agenda for the sector which involved hosting of several global standard events, creation of entertainment village in the three senatorial districts, infra upgrade of tourist sites, logistics

support for Osun as a film locations, cluster industry for craft sub-sector among others.

The Governor disclosed his intention to take advantage of the state's global music stars such as Davido and B-Red to host global concerts and push towards an annual global Yoruba Heritage week to draw thousands of tourists from South America, Europe and North America.

According to Senator Adeleke who is now christened "a dancing and working Governor", the plan also touches on the development of the hotel sector in terms of standardization and facilitation to secure and maintain high quality service for global visitors

and national visitors the state will be receiving starting from next year.

He described Nollywood as the uncelebrated booster of the national economy, assuring that his administration is prepared to collaborate with the iconic platform to deepen Osun as a global tourist destination.

Governor Adeleke narrated that his focus on infra upgrade in the last one year was to attract investors and the creative industry people to Osun, adding that "we are working to make the roads motorable, the health centers workable, the workers very happy, the water access very accessible, the school facilities very conducive and security truly water

tight.

"The entertainment sector is a huge money spinner. In other developed countries, national earnings run into billions of dollars. In Africa, Nollywood is a household name.

"Osun as the cradle of the Yoruba nation must rise to serve as the center of the creative industry. As the custodian of Yoruba major cultural assets, we must be the capital of the cultural creative industry. That is what my administration is committed to.

"We will support you as a very important economic driver. We will soon call for a further partnership meeting", the Governor noted.

Speaking earlier, the Founder of BON Awards, Seun Oloketuyi who led the Nollywood team to the Governor commended the Governor for hosting the 2023 BON Awards, describing the Governor as a major of the entertainment industry.

"We appreciate your hosting us as well as granting new energy to the Awards by your active participation. We look forward to deeper collaboration", Mr Oloketuyi noted.

In attendance at the event was the publisher of Ovation Magazine, Akinrogun Dele Momodu, Fred Amata, Adebayo salami, Keppy Ekpeyoung, Toyin Adegbola, Shushu Abubakar among others.

The Day Osun Civil Servants Honoured Governor Adeleke

By Sarafa Ibrahim

It was a rare sight at the Bola Ige House on Thursday, or more appropriately, an atmosphere that anyone will ever have contemplated. Adorned in Ankara attires, workers in the employment of the Osun state filled the parking lot of the facility that houses the Governor's office to honour the state governor, Senator Ademola Adeleke.

This sounds unbelievable, but it actually happened. And the Head of Service in the state, Mr. Ayanleye Aina helped unravel the rationale behind the decision of the Osun workforce to honour Governor Adeleke by noting that while experience has shown a striking gap between campaign promises and the actual delivery of dividends of democracy the "case of our amiable Governor is a radical departure from this position as workers and retirees have continued to benefit from the kindness of the Governor."

And he was not alone with this feeling as labour leaders took turns to justify the decision to honour Governor Adeleke as the "Most Humane Governor Of The Year" award by the civil servants in the state. The significance of the event was striking and historical. Anyone who has followed events in Osun over the years will feel the same way because a poor attitude toward the welfare of workers and pensioners usually puts civil servants on a collision course with the government and hardly give room for any form of honour as done for Governor Adeleke.

The event speaks to the resounding acceptance of Osun workers to Governor Adeleke's passionate commitment to their welfare. It was a lesson in service that when a Governor puts smiles on the faces of workers by prioritizing their welfare, they are bound to reciprocate the gesture through open recognition as bestowed on Governor Adeleke. When you make governance about the people as Governor Adeleke is doing, it is almost certain that the people will acknowledge it. This was exactly what happened with the Osun civil servants and Governor Adeleke.

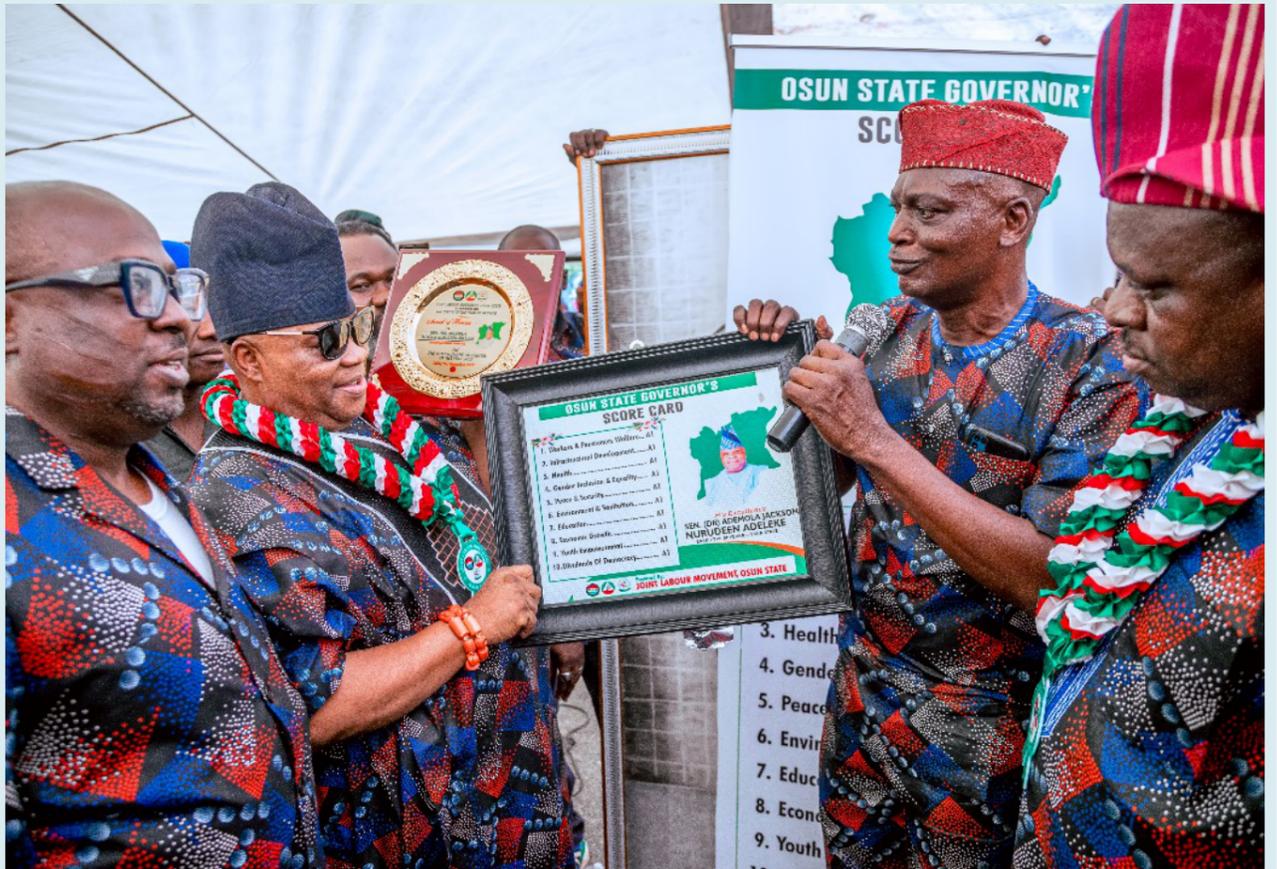
In the one year since Governor Adeleke has been in office, I have read and listened with relish series of testimonies of his impactful governance. The height of it came at the event put up by the civil servants to honour the governor as speaker upon speaker highlighted the good deeds of Governor Adeleke and how they affected them one way or the other.

The Head of Service, Mr. Aina noted in his speech that "Prior to the advent of your (Adeleke) Administration in the State, senior workers were owed several months of unpaid half salaries, a situation that came to the national limelight. Believing that governance is a continuum, your administration has been consistently offsetting these backlog of salary and pension arrears. As we speak, four months arrears have been paid to date. Your administration cash-backed arrears of promotions from the previous Administrations which were in millions of naira."

But the thing is, Governor Adeleke's incredible posture toward welfare is not limited to active workers. The welfare of senior citizens has seen a remarkable improvement under Governor Adeleke, which Mr. Aina pointed out during his speech. According to him, Governor Adeleke has "increased the monthly release of fund for the payment of gratuities for retirees at the State level 100%, that is from N50m to N100m" and also "increased the monthly release of fund for the new pension scheme from N175m to N350m, that is, by 100%. At the local government level, it was increased to N400m."

Perhaps this was why the Chairman of the Nigeria Union of Pensioners (NUP), Osun State chapter, Baba Salau Ganiyu, enjoins the people of Osun to "help us thank the Governor" when he was called upon to address the gathering. The octogenarian who was apparently impressed with Governor Adeleke on the welfare of retirees declared that "He is doing wonderfully well for pensioners." Then, he highlighted many things that Governor Adeleke has done for pensioners since coming to office, particularly "the enrollment of all retirees on the health insurance scheme", which he said will handle health challenges faced by pensioners and drastically reduce incidents of untimely deaths among them.

Just like him, the Chairman of Contributory Pensioners in Osun state, Elder Gbenga Oyadare, was full of praise for Governor Adeleke for his humane disposition to the



Osun Civil Servants Honoured Gov. Adeleke

welfare of workers and pensioners. "For the first time, there is no round table discussion on the payment of half salary. If you have taken your bond, you will take it quarterly and if you haven't, you will get it monthly. Without negotiation at all, health insurance approved, to the level of operation," he said at the event.

Stories and testimonies of Governor Adeleke's astounding touching impacts like this abound across sectors and are daily shared by those impacted. Before the advent of Governor Adeleke, the attitude to the welfare of workers and pensioners was erratic just like power supply in Nigeria, exerting undeserved pains on them as reflected in the 30 months of unpaid half salary and pension arrears. Many affected workers lost hope of receiving their earned money because, for the entire forty-eight months of the immediate past administration in office, no attempt was made to pay any part of the owed wage debt. It was considered an impossibility.

Then Governor Adeleke came with his touch of humanity kind of leadership and from that point, those things considered impossible become possible. Payment of the owed half salary was initiated and in one year, four months has been paid. The promotion for civil servants done in 2019 by the past administration but not backed by the consequential financial implication was cash-backed by Governor Adeleke only a few months in office. Civil servants no longer have to bear promotion papers that do not translate to real value in terms of earnings to them as they did for nearly four years as the

administration that gave it to them failed to implement the financial consequences.

The story isn't any different for pensioners in the state. Between November 27, 2022, and November 2023, Governor Adeleke has expended over N20 billion to clear inherited pension liabilities. And right at the venue of the event put up by the civil servants to honour him, Governor Adeleke issued over N2.9 billion in fresh bonds to pensioners across sectors. While retirees under state service receive N1.3 billion in bond payments, those in the local government and primary school categories got a total of N1.625 billion in bond payments. Do not forget that a few months back, Governor Adeleke enrolled the entire retirees in Osun state in healthcare coverage (the first and only state in Nigeria to do so) just to relieve pensioners of the burden of managing health challenges common with old age.

You can now see why the civil servants in Osun state choose to honour Governor Adeleke because right through his actions and deeds, he is indeed humane. He is unlike the experience of the past when civil servants and pensioners will have to pour into the streets in protest before they can get their due entitlements. That is why the civil servants could roll out the drums because they have seen a lot and can tell the difference that Governor Adeleke is a friend and deserves every honour bestowed on him.

Two things stand out in what civil servants in Osun state did for Governor Adeleke— people appreciate good deeds and nothing is more rewarding than touching lives positively. If Governor Adeleke had shown similar disdain for the welfare of workers and pensioners as some ahead of him have done, the gathering at the Bola Ige House would never have happened. And if did, it would not be to honour him but rather, something unpleasant.

Every person in Osun can see the passion that Governor Adeleke has put into solving the series of challenges he inherited. Not just addressing the welfare conundrum that defined the past but also the striking infrastructure shortage that plagued the state. And he is doing all these despite the stress that debt servicing, which stood at about N1.8 billion on a monthly basis, exerts on the derivation of the state. The long and short of it all is that, Governor Adeleke is working for the people and the clearest indication is the "Most Humane Governor of The Year" bestowed on him by the workforce of the state. Congratulations Mr. Governor.

•Sarafa Ibrahim is a Special Assistant to the Osun State Governor on Print Media. He writes from Iwo, Osun State.

“
Increased the monthly release of fund for the payment of gratuities for retirees at the State level 100%, that is from N50m to N100m" and also "increased the monthly release of fund for the new pension scheme from N175m to N350m, that is, by 100%. At the local government level, it was increased to N400m.
 ”

Opinion

Who needs Atunto: Osun, PDP or APC?

By Blessing Adegbite

Atunto in Yoruba synonym, means; restructuring, the advanced English language dictionary also says "Restructuring" is a reorganization; an alteration of structure.

In clear terms from the dictionary meaning, "Atunto" is a reorganization of a structure either divided or in total disarray.

A look at the two leading political parties; PDP and APC in Osun State within the last Six years to x-ray which one of them really needs "Atunto", like some political actors had played in the last few weeks.

PDP 2018 - 2023

Osun PDP, in the build-up to 2018 Governorship poll, declared Senator Ademola Adeleke it's Gubernatorial flag bearer in a keenly contested primary with the then party chieftain, expelled PDP member Akin Ogunbiyi, with a seven vote difference on the 23rd July 2018.

Ademola Adeleke contested the 2018 governorship election and was close to defeating the then APC candidate Gboyega Oyetola, leading with 353 votes, the election was declared inconclusive at the first round of the ballots. Gboyega Oyetola was then declared winner in the second round ballots.

The Osun PDP were never deterred of their past hurdles of the "stolen mandate" of Senator Ademola Adeleke in 2018, as they often describe it.

In build up to 2022 governorship election, Senator Ademola Adeleke re-contested the PDP primary election and was declared the gubernatorial flag bearer.

Osun PDP tagged the 2022 gubernatorial campaign mission to recover stolen mandate, to prove to the world that Senator Ademola Adeleke mandate was stolen in 2018.

The July 16 governorship election in Osun state finally became destiny fulfilment for Senator Ademola Adeleke and "mandate recovery" for the Peoples's Democratic Party as PDP polled 403,371 votes to defeat the candidate of the All Progressive Congress (APC), Gboyega Oyetola, who scored 375,927 votes and it can be said today that there is no faction or any division in Osun PDP the ruling party in the State.

Osun APC 2018 - 2023



As the popular saying a house divided against it's self can not stand aptly summarize the divisional crisis erupting Osun APC, can be traced back to July 19, 2018, in the build up to the party gubernatorial primary election, about 27 Aspirants including former Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives, Hon Lasun Yussuf, the then Chief of Staff to Governor Aregbesola, Chief Adegboyega, former Speaker, Osun House of Assembly, Dr. Najeem Salam and Senator Babajide Omoworare were among others that contested for party's ticket.

In the heat of the crisis, some of the then leading Aspirants Rejected Direct Primaries, some members of the then State Working Committee suspended the Chairman, Prince Gboyega Famodun and the Secretary, Alhaji Rasak Salinsile, Aspirants From Osun West boycotted the party Primaries, the then national leadership of All Progressives Congress (APC), led by Comrade Adams Oshiomhole adopted the process of direct primary to choose its governorship candidate, were many among others issues that threw Osun APC into endless crisis till date.

It's not news that Osun APC is divided into two factions; TOP are the party members loyal to former Governor Ogbeni Aregbesola and the Ilerioluwa group championed by immediate former Governor Adegboyega Oyetola.

In addition, Prior to the 2022 election, the Osun APC had been polarized into several factions, with former governor Oyetola engaging in a battle of wits with his former boss and predecessor, Rauf Aregbesola, on who controls the soul of APC in the state.

The war of attrition between the duo scaled down the fabrics of the party, right from the state executive committee, to the local governments, wards and even, poling unit levels.

Checks revealed that the immediate past governor, Gboyega Oyetola was banking on the ever willing "federal machine", often deployed by his party at the center to muscle opposition at any major election in the states, the whirlwind of popularity of his main contender, Ademola Adeleke, the now Executive Governor of the state, became too much to handle, thereby flooring Oyetola, who had hoped to use forceful victory at the poll to politically bury his boss, Rauf Aregbesola.

Immediately after the woeful performance of the APC in the election, many of the party faithful, particularly at the grassroots pointed accusing fingers at the defeated governor who many of them blamed for the loss through his high handedness and inability to galvanize needed supports for the party due to what they saw as very poor performance in office.

Things got to a head as many of the agitated gladiators were hounded dangerously with assailants, so brazenly that many of them merely escaped with their lives by the whiskers.

Former Speaker, Rt Hon Najeem Salaam, former SSG, Moshood Adeoti, former Commissioner Kolapo Alimi and former Deputy Speaker of the house of representatives, Hon Lasun Yusuf amongst several APC leaders nearly paid with their lives as gunmen often trailed their weekly meetings at the Oranmiyan House, belonging to their leader, Rauf Aregbesola.

The division in Osun APC took another dimensions on the 31st of August 2023, in a statement by Tajudeen Lawal, chairman of the party in Osun, said Moshood Adeoti an ally of Rauf Aregbesola, immediate former minister of interior and 25 other members were suspended by the All Progressive Congress (APC), accused of creating a faction of the APC in the state, The leadership of Osun APC also expelled 84 of its members.

Who really needs Atunto?

Without much ado, it is crystal clear that Osun APC needs Physical, Mental and Spiritual Atunto. Many political gladiators in Osun state, can testify to landmines on the path of the PDP, the ruling party in the state and how Governor Ademola Adeleke has succeeded in navigating the path expertly and leaving many in awe of his political and administrative prowess.

Dotun Babayemi, an expelled member of the PDP, who has found love in APC as of today is not a member of any registered political party, you will recall that the PDP in Osun State expelled Dotun Babayemi

Dotun Babayemi since September 29, 2022, after the Supreme Court judgment that ruled in favour of Ademola Adeleke as the party's candidate in the gubernatorial primary election.

Reports has it that Dotun Babayemi is the leader of a new faction in the All Progressives Congress called (Atunto). He is calling for Political and Economic restructuring in the state when Babayemi is not even a member of any political party in the State since his expulsion from the PDP.

The formation of a group headed by Dotun Babayemi named 'Atunto Osun', which is aimed at repositioning Osun State Politically and Economically by Dotun Babayemi is hypocritical, he is only carrying out the bidding of his paymasters, he is a petty noisemaker and a failed politician, without any form of electoral value.

There is nothing to reposition in the state, the award winning Governor Ademola Adeleke is doing very well.

OSUN SPRING
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Photo news



L-R: Governor Ademola Adeleke, Prince Olagunsoye Oyinlola



L-R: Governor Ademola Adeleke, Senator Olu Alabi



L-R: Governor Ademola Adeleke, Alhaji Shuaib Oyedokun



Governor Ademola Adeleke and Osun PDP Leaders at the residence of Alhaji Shuaib Oyedokun



Governor Ademola Adeleke and Osun PDP leaders at the residence of Senator Olu Alabi



Governor Ademola Adeleke attends the first Osun Council of Obas 2024 meeting



Governor Ademola Adeleke attends the first Osun Council of Obas 2024 meeting



Governor Ademola Adeleke, Chief of Staff- Alhaji Kazeem Akinleye, Secretary to the State Government- Alhaji Tesleem Igbalaye attends Osun Commissioner for Women Affairs, Mrs Ayo Awolowo daughters wedding in Lagos



Governor Ademola Adeleke of Osun State visits Former Ekiti governor, Ayodele Fayose in his Lagos residence



Governor Ademola Adeleke resumes duty after vacation abroad, inspecting ongoing Osogbo road dualisation



Governor Ademola Adeleke bags Honorary Doctorate Degree from Valley View University.



L-R: Osun State Head of Service- Mr Ayanleye Aina; Osun State Deputy Governor- Prince Kola Adewusi; Osun State Government- Senator Ademola Adeleke; Secretary to the State Government- Alhaji Tesleem Igbalaye, Osun State PDP Chairman- Hon Sunday Bisi in a meeting with journalist as Governor Adeleke resumes duty after vacation abroad.

Feature

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Why

Marriages

Fail

By Tomi Lala

According to Oxford dictionary, marriage is the legal or formal recognized union of two people as partners in a personal relationship, meanwhile, in a biblical definition, marriage is the reason is why a man leaves his father and mother he's united to his wife, while they become one flesh.

It is believed that marriages originated from heaven, whether it is arranged or love marriages. Yet, sometimes marriages fail despite years of courting and living together for many years.

In this article, Osun Spring Newspaper takes a look at why marriages fail and possible ways to have an healthy marriage as well as possible reasons for marriage failure.

Marriage can be seen as a universal, irrespective of race, colour or nations, checks has however revealed that there are common challenges

couples face that may in one way or the other lead to breakdown if not adequately attended to, which could be lack of communication, lack of money or lack of sexual pleasure.

Expert says communication is the bedrock of a successful marital life. It's through communication that most cases of disagreements between spouses can be adequately ironed out and if there's any breakdown in communication, then the life of that marriage is gradually going down.

Experts however advised that what couples needs to do is to create time for one another in discussing various aspects of their relationship noting that if this can be adequately put in place, there would be less issues related to communication breakdown in marriages which will in turn lead to success in such marriage.

In an interview with Pastor Isaac Daramola if

the Living Faith Church Iperindo, he elaborated some reasons behind failure of marriages.

He said "Before spouses in relationships agree to marry they must or should've discussed at length to the "of what their cultures (if they are of different tribes) or religion (if they're of different religion, or of different denomination) will play in their marriage. This is very much important, not because of today but because of the coming future.

"First, we must understand that the bible condemns leaving conflicts unresolved till the next day.

"If conflicts are left unresolved, it will be like a wound unattended to that may lead to infection thereby festering the wound. So, for couples to truly enjoy their marriage, this issue must consciously be worked on.

"Number one, create room for genuine communication. Secondly, Spouses must never emotionally abuse the other or try to override the other's emotions, or else, it will never give the spouses a viable ground to agree.

"The number three thing is that spouse must believe that no one is ever perfect. Therefore, there should be room for mistakes and forgiveness in their marital life.

"If there was no understanding of the financial capacity of the provider to the other spouse, then their would be issues. This is why we encourage open accountability and transparency between spouse. This is what will make finances not to be an issue in the marriage.

"My advice is as as follows, Husband as the provider should always be transparent with his spouse and Wives should please manage the financial resources of the spouse judiciously and if there's any way she 2can also help, she should do so.

"Trust is what long lasting relationship is built on not just love, anywhere there is trust, their will be love. Spouses cannot trust themselves and say they don't love one another.

Their may be love, buy if there is no trust, then the marriage will soon breakdown.

"They must continually

trust one another and never give room to gossips because gossips is one of the erosion of trust in marriage and at the end, it will lead to divorce.

Osun spring correspondent also spoke Miss Victoria Funmilayo Bamigboye, who recommended some strategies for couples.

"They should be prayerful and always try as much as possible to serve God together.

"Secondly, they should take the word of God as their major source of marital nourishment. Because, doing this will strengthen the cord of their relationship in order to weather all kind of storms that may want to arise.

"Thirdly, they should read books, listen to tapes of respected men and women of God who are having success in their marriage, and follow their footsteps.

"Money plays a major role in keeping the flow in a marriage. We can love freely but love in itself is being sustained and developed with money.

"As marriage grows so are the bills of marriage increases. The mentality that the man bears all responsibilities is good but very overwhelming. A wife should be supportive as much as possible which should be willingly.

"One strategy that should be used is the use of a joint account where they both

put money in for agreed purposes. Also as the man tries to cater for the home, the wife should buy some petty things in the house without asking him for the money which makes the man not feel alone.

"Number two thing is Secrets. Marriage is just as lovely as its basis. The transparency of such a foundation is among its most intriguing features. Any relationship's sincerity can be determined by its openness.

Conversely, secrets are an inherent aspect of any individual's life, be it their past, present, or future.

"Although sharing secrets makes one predictable and vulnerable, one should still be able to trust their partner.

"An excessive amount of secrecy in a partnership erodes trust, loyalty, and love.

Secrets have the potential to turn a couple into strangers since they make them feel as though they don't know each other well enough.

"A secret that was kept from and found out by the try may ruin a marriage since it would make him or her feel unjustly treated and betrayed. Secrets are weaknesses that outsiders can exploit to drive a wedge between a couple.

"If you withhold secrets from your partners out of concern for their feelings toward you, what would happen if they found out? Share the secrets with discernment, and those who choose you will do so forever. Love shouldn't be accompanied by fear; secrets breed fear.

"We are from different backgrounds so we will have different values, priorities and goals, but we have to first discuss these things to understand each other's perspectives and try to find common ground, then the parties must be willing to compromise and look for common ground that accepts each others need and value but these things should be treated with care and respect

"One other thing is Parenting styles. Differences in parenting styles can lead to conflicts between partners, as they may have different ideas about discipline, rules and priorities. These conflicts can strain the relationship and affect The party's communication the best way to address this issue is to have honest and open Communication with your Partner with willingness to compromise", she said.

Feature

Osun APC and its unending crisis

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS EDITION

By Tope Odediran

While some APC loyalists share in the bulldoze by force attitude of Oyetola's clique towards the 2026 election, many others are skeptical of the shoot and run approach.

Those in the latter school of thought hinged their fear on the fast evolving electoral process in the country where it is becoming increasingly difficult to rig elections against popular contenders, owing to technological innovations of the electoral body and the increasing participatory awareness of the electorate.

The skeptics are deep realists in this context though, as no sane government at the center would in any case, contemplate rigging elections especially in Osun State for obvious reasons of Wild West history. The recent endsars protests that nearly consumed the nation actually was triggered from Osun State, with thousands of youth resisting intimidating stance of security operatives trying to quell the riots after one of them was killed in a police chase.

That said, in trying to broker solutions to barrage of miseries confronting the party in Osun State, APC appears to tinker with what political observers see as a tit for tat shot. The party moneybags are believed to be funding some PDP renegades with the aim of fueling external impression of internal feud in the ruling party, a replica of the TOP elements in the Oyetola led APC.

While a former PDP member in Ayedaade local government, Prince Dotun Babayemi is seen as being deployed to force some divisions in the ruling party, the warhorses in the APC are however not keen on such approach.

This class of thought condemned Babayemi as a more of political baggage than asset. The Gbongan prince as it were, is coming from a negative side of traditional history, as his progenitor was in the kingship lineages of the ancient town. Aside modern wavering of traditional beliefs as myths, siblings of a deposed king by whatever form in Yoruba land are believed to be cursed. They would wander laboriously, most times without defined purpose other than treachery for which royalty was terminated abruptly on their clan. That's a topic for another day!

PDP in this stead has also played a fast one on the touchline without losing possession of the ball. Babayemi being propped to instigate crisis in the ruling party had long been fired. Though, still clinging to membership of the party by his own tricks, but in reality, he is a non-entity.

So, the strategy of using someone like Babayemi against the PDP is not only wrong but inept. The embattled prince, though a good political roundabout dancer but he doesn't dance for free. In this case and considering his attitude right from his days in APC before he was ejected and consequent move to PDP, Babayemi has his eyes gazed on several fronts including the APC he's dancing round now. But ask Babayemi whether he knows what he really wants in the trajectory of the role assigned him by his users, I bet he doesn't know.

Though not anywhere more than a house of assembly material, the political wanderer as many describe Babayemi would by now be prizing himself for APC governorship ticket, basically to be 'dashed the impossible Osun West Senatorial ticket. How that pans out with more tested hands in the district or how such 'pay as you move' greenhorn impacts positively on the fortune of APC, remains a waiting conjecture.

Another interesting angle is the loud whispering of some APC forces, dangling the Ikire born Bola Oyeibanji, the immediate past commissioner of



Aregbesola

Oyetola



Akande

Omisore

finance, for APC governorship ticket in 2026. The immediate impression one may be tempted to sniff on this is perfect move by the opposition party. But do they have the tenacity to sustain the gamble? I doubt.

However, going by the outcome of the 2022 governorship poll in Osun, where the then ruling party did fairly well in the senatorial zone, it will not be out of place to have its candidate picked from the zone. After all, jettisoning the zone was the beginning of their troubles in the state. Former governor Rauf Aregbesola had reportedly settled for a possible candidate from the zone before Oyetola crawled to his uncle, APC leader and now president, Bola Ahmed Tinubu who coercively persuaded Aregbesola to have the defeated incumbent governor on the APC ticket. How he was declared winner by the then FUTA VC, Professor Fuwape, the INEC returning officer in the 2018 guber context remained a dark spot in the map of elections in Nigeria till today.

Oyeibanji however entering the fray does not automatically extinguish APC flames of misery, as the ruling PDP is also not leaving stones unturned there. PDP now boasts of a tested political guru in the zone in the deputy minority leader of the Senate, Akogun Lere Oyewumi. The Ikire born political technician is already setting a foot holding pace in his hometown as well as other communities in Osun

West. It certainly will be a high mountain for Oyeibanji to climb before 2026.

That again, perhaps will offer other contenders like Senator Ajibola Basiru a leverage on the argument that Oyeibanji will in no way be a match for Lere Oyewumi who is believed to be a member of the inner chambers of the current governor, Senator Ademola Adeleke.

Basiru as mentioned in the earlier piece, is not letting go of the opportunity of grabbing the ticket with his vantage position as the APC national secretary. In this wise, he cannot be wrong too. Going by APC tradition, he is large in deciding on either direct or indirect party primaries for the tickets, depending on which best suits his whims.

As the opposition grapples with the obvious confusion in its fold, many of its bewildered members advised that it emulates the ruling PDP approach, who immediately after the loss of 2018 governorship election, picked Governor Ademola Adeleke as their candidate for 2022 election and followed through till 2022. The party eventually won the main contest regardless of challenges mounted by the likes of Babayemi and others enroute the election.

While helpless members are hoping for timely and workable truce, most of the gladiators in the APC are seemingly at daggers drawn, with camps springing up and all working at cross-purposes.

Interview



We are focused on human development -CCI President

In this interview, Sulaimon Bimbo Ajibola, Presiden Continental Club of Ikire spoke to Taofik Jimoh on the activities of the foundation and the purpose for which it was established. The club recently demonstrated its commitment to the well-being of the Ikire community by donating essential medical equipment to Ikire Mercy Hospital in Laakosin Area, Ikire, Osun State.

Tell us about what you do?

I am a legal practitioner. I was called to the Nigeria Bar Association (NBA) at the Supreme Court of Nigeria, and I am the current president of the Continental Club of Ikire.

When was the club founded?

Continental Club of Ikire was originally formed as Ikire Continental Club. However, when we proposed to register with the government, the name could not be accepted, so we had to amend it. The Federal Government of Nigeria eventually registered it as Continental Club of Ikire. The club was founded about 6 years ago. Although I was not part of the founding members, I am the second president. The club was initially founded by 6-7 members, with Mr. Olayinka Idris Asekunlowo was the pioneer president. After his tenure, the members chose me as the president.

***When did you become president, was is through an election?**

I became president in December 2022 but it was a rectification; it wasn't an election. I was the consensus candidate and was rectified to be the president.

Whats the membership of the club like?

Our club comprises about 16 members at the moment, and we are located in different parts of the country. We also have members in the diaspora, probably in the United States (US), Canada, South Africa, and Europe. We have diverse professionals as members, including engineers, top civil servants, security operatives, business tycoons, realtors, and others. So far, we have been living harmoniously in the club; it has been a peaceful reign.

What are the challenges?

There are a few challenges. The main difficulty is that we have trouble convening due to the issue of distance. Today, we

had a physical meeting, and 10 members attended out of the 16 in the club. Among the 5 members abroad, one of them is present at the moment, and one could not make it due to contingency. This is one of the highest attendance records we have ever had; usually, we have 8 or 9 in attendance because of the primary challenge of distance.

How is the club funded?

Anytime we ask our members to make contributions, we don't have difficulty in raising funds for whatever is needed. We also pay dues of five thousand naira monthly.

Who can join your club?

To become a member, one must apply. Before the application, the club will open the channel of interest, deciding when to allow a new member to join. Intending members then apply, and the club scrutinizes, selecting only successful candidates.

There is also a registration fee of one hundred and fifty thousand naira. The criteria to join include being an adult, employed, having a known occupation, and having a good character free from any criminal activities. We scrutinize potential members to ensure they have a good pedigree.

What do you do when you have a project?

Whenever we have a project, we set annual goals at the beginning of the year. For this year, our project target is two million naira, and a portion has already gone to health-related expenses. We pay bills for people facing financial crises, support with hospital and school bills, and assist some in their businesses. We set a target time for each member to contribute their portion, and when we reach our target, we proceed with the project. We are grateful for the support of our members, and with a board of trustees, including the immediate past president, we draw on their wisdom to guide the club.

If you are to define your feats, what have you been able

to achieve?

If I am to define our feats, I would say we have been able to achieve by giving back to the society. Our club is a non-governmental organization and a non-profit making organization as well. Everything we are able to do is a function of our private earnings.

We set a target of two million per annum, contributed by all members from their own earnings. Considering the economy, gathering two million from 16 people is a great feat. We are not limited to the set project amount; sometimes, we set out two million and exceed that in terms of expenditure. Part of our feat is giving back to society, focusing on human development.

We provide training and support to individuals, hospitals, and others, although we don't always publicize these activities.

Part of our feats is supporting humanity, seeing people's problems as ours. Our support is tailored towards Ikire people since we are called Ikire Continental Club. It is a community-based club, taking obligations more from people in Ikire. While I belong to other clubs making voluntary donations and addressing broader issues, this club is specifically for Ikire people.

We coordinate with the palace and local institutions for effective support. In the future, we plan to do more, and I'm impressed by the management of Ikire Mercy Clinic. We aim to draw support globally for the clinic and other community initiatives.

What are the future plan of the club?

In the future, we aim to contribute to creating a better society, focusing on human development, personnel development, and improving people's lives. We want to spread the grace and make more people benefit from our initiatives.

What should Ikire people be looking at from you?

Ikire people should expect more support from us as much as we can provide, and we assure them that we will do our best by God's grace.

Entertainment

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BON AWARD:

Chidi Mokeme, Ini Edo, Ntim Ikpe Top List Of Winners As Governor Adeleke, Oga Bello Wins Special Recognition Award

By Oluniyi Isamotu

Sensational actor, Chidi Mokeme has won the Best Actor in the 2023 BON Award held in Osun. While Chidi Mokeme was recognised for his leading role in "Shanty Town" that equally won the "Movie of the Year" at the award ceremony, Ini Edo and Nse Ntim Ikpe won the Best Actress in a Leading Role (English) and Best Actress of the Year Award in a Supporting Role (Nse Ikpe-Etim), respectively for their roles in the movie as well.

Osun born actor and movie producer, David Akande, was also one of the winners of the night. His latest cinematic gem, "Asa," secured the prestigious award for the 'Best Movie with a Social Message' at the award ceremony.

The movie (Asa) takes the

topshot at the Award ceremony among other nominees in the category like "Black Harvest, Sister, Herdsmen and SHANTY

Town." Meanwhile, the movie 'Underbelly' carted away four awards at the award ceremony which are, "Director of the Year, Best

Use of Special Effects, Best in Production Design, and Best Actor in a Supporting Role; English (Stan Nze)." Other major award given

was the Special recognition award given to Governor Ademola Adeleke for his support for the creative industry. Other recipients of the Special Recognition Award

are veteran thespian, Adebayo Salami (Oga Bello), and Toyin Adegbola (Ashewo to re Mecca), who were recognised for their contributions to the movie industry.

Kay's Place Grills & Lounge Celebrates One Year Anniversary With 11-days Of Fanfare

By Oluniyi Isamotu

One of the great relaxation spot in the city of Osogbo, 'Kay's Place Grills & Lounge' has lined up activities in marking their One year of existence and business operation of providing quality entertainment spot for the people with 11-days of fanfare.

In marking their one year anniversary, the CEO of the lounge Hon Taofeek Kayode,

popularly known as 'k-dollar', has declared an 11-days of sweet sensation and jamboree. The sweet jamboree starting from December 23, 2023, is running up to Jan 2, 2024, has a lineup of DJs, MC's, Comedians, live band artists, and well-known pop stars.

The line-up are; Dec 23 (Alamu Bonanza, Dodoede, DJ Slim), Dec 24 (Ramon Akanni, Dodoede, Dj Tymzo "Osun Youngest DJ"), Dec 25 (9ice "Gongo Aso" & Vickeyz

Band General Orlak, Dj Nifty), Dec 26 (Musiliu Haruna Ishola, Dr Bengu, DJ Yb), Dec 27 (Okiki Akeem, Demo Sport & Ewa Ede, DJ Fabulous), Dec 28 (Nurudeen Antenna, IB Square, DJ Ysf), Dec 29 (Idowu Santana, Mc Massive, Dj Ay Fresh "drummer boy"), Dec 30 (PSV Band, Balogun Ilu, Dj Mbit), Dec 31 (DJ TJ, Hype Lady Y), Jan 1 (Femi Oorun Solar, Mc Sam, Dj TJ), Jan 2 (Adegbodun Twins, Dodoede, DJ

Mayor Alubarkah). It promises to be a great moment at Kay's Place

Grills & Lounge celebrating their one year anniversary in the yuletide season.





NNL: Osun Utd Earns 3 Points Against Ijebu Utd

By Oluniyi Isamotu

Osun Utd returns to winning ways with a hard fought victory over Ijebu United in one of the match day six of the Nigeria National League, NNL, decided at the Osogbo Township Stadium.

The Omoluabi giant's masterclass proved too hot for the visitors to handle in the early

minutes as Essien's combo with Sodiq remains the major outlets of dangerous feeds as Agbolade is kept at bay by the visitors.

Osun United in the seventeenth minutes thought deadlock has been broken as Babatunde Sodiq skips past his marker and unleashes a low drive, which skips past the goalkeeper only for

woodwork to deny his great effort.

Twenty minutes after the break, the centre referee spotted a handball inside the opponents area as pressure mounts. Dayo Agbolade made no mistake, sending the stand into frenzy as Ganiu Odumade of Ijebu Utd was left stranded.

Tension continues to pile up immediately Omoluabi Giants took

the lead, Ijebu Utd fought back only to see their chances not utilized, same way Essien missed a header off a fine delivery fresh from Ayodele Ismail who worked few acres before releasing an inviting cross.

After the final whistle, the match ended 1-0 in

favour of Osun Utd which puts them in top-spot of the Conference League B table of the NNL ahead of Crown FC of Ogbomoso and making them ending the year on a high note.

The victory is a second home win for the Osun united whose gaffer Seye Ajayi was full of praises for his lads.

He noted that the win is a morale booster going into the new year.

Ogbomoso is the next destination for Osun Utd in the new year as Crown FC serves as the host come January 6th, 2024, with a heavyweight clash of the top spot of the league is expected in the game.





Magic Of Good Governance In Osun State

By Olawale Rasheed

Media, economy, politics and policy are intertwined fields at the heart of democracy and national development. From the Osun state Governor's office christened White House, it is a privilege to start a column on those fields combined, using the subnational model of Ademola Adeleke governorship as a springboard. The first piece is to highlight why this endeavor is desirable as a contribution to governance discourse.

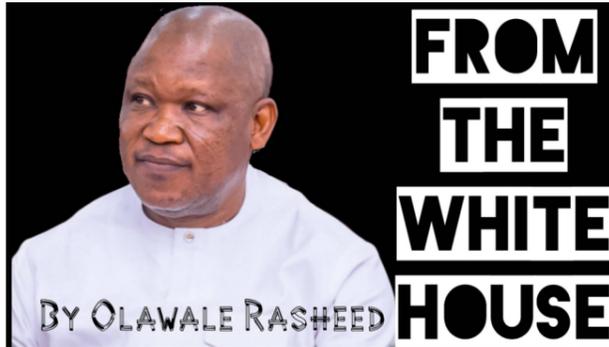
The question may be asked as to how qualified I am to write on these wide fields with desired robustness and intellectual depth. Let me humbly submit that I was privileged to have traversed and operated across the identified professional fields for more than four decades, gaining deep wealth of experience very hard to dispute or contest. Such a multi-dimensional, cross cutting career path shaped one's mind to operate at multiple levels of action. One is proud to assert that this writer's grasp spread across local, national to international levels.

Politically, my politicking predated my journalism career. From the pre-SDP days to United Nigeria Congress Party (UNCP) to the foundation processes of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), one has played critical roles at state and national levels. One is a tested horse in the political space as an operative providing much needed think tank support for many leaders.

As a journalist, my active reporting life from Ibadan to Lagos to Abuja was full of eventful episodes as the Tribune family afforded me rare privileges of operations in frontline positions, leading to editorial appointments as Abuja Bureau Chief, Group Politics Editor, Northern Region Editor and later Deputy Editor of the oldest private newspaper in the country.

In terms of governance experience, the writer is lucky to have also been around for long. A lot of experience has been accumulated as to how bureaucracy works as well as the intersection of policy making and implementation. As a student of public administration after an initial degree in Arts and Education, the blend was easily established. It is rewarding to have served as Special Assistant to two separate federal ministers in the Federal Ministry of Youth Development and later at the Federal Ministry of Power for almost eight years combined.

Then the career switch deeply encouraged by multi-talented Prof Adesoji Adesugba; President of Abuja Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Chief Emeka Obegbolu; President of NACCIMA, Otunba Dele Oye and



a really, really big boss, Prince Adetokunbo Kayode, the former defence minister and Attorney General of Nigeria, was indeed a game changer. I joined the business chamber movement and became a Council member and Chairman of the Transport Trade Group of Abuja Chamber of Commerce. Today, one is the 2nd Deputy President of Iwo Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Vice President of Osun State Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Aside from one's business within Sahel Media group, I became a railway policy advocacy professional running my own firm, African Railway Consulting Limited. We did a lot of work at continental level for the African High Speed Railway project as well as the African Railway Agenda project of the Union of International Railways(UIC). We run the African Railway Roundtable which is a robust non-governmental platform for African rail policy reforms. The Federal Government indeed appointed me as one of the three private sector members for the Committee for the unbundling of Nigerian Railway Corporation(NRC).

The most interesting part is the present position as the Spokesperson to the Olosun of Osun, His Excellency, Governor Ademola Adeleke (the Imole of our time), a position in which one is honoured to work with global business champion and father, Dr Deji Adeleke; an unrivaled political mobiliser and enforcer, Yeyeluwa Dupe Adeleke- Sanni; and a master political strategist, the Chief of Staff to the Governor, Hon Kazeem Akinleye among other top leaders, many of whom are allies, associates and leaders from the SDP days. This writer is clearly tested enough and deeply equipped to shed light on happenings within and outside the White House as a platform for discourse on good governance as typified by the policies and programmes of Governor Ademola Adeleke.

That Governor Adeleke is delivering on good governance is no longer a matter of debate. Top opponents have

acknowledged that verifiable facts. Stakeholders in the Osun project accepted the sterling performance of Mr Governor. Many are still at loss as to how the Governor and his team are managing state power to deliver so much with little resources. Many are even searching everywhere for the magic wand to see what details are therein.

The magic of good governance in Osun state is simply people's welfare as first priority, purposeful leadership, listening and consultative model, unorthodox approach to governance, due process, rule of law and fear of God. To get this clearly, I urge readers to read through the inaugural address of Mr Governor here- <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/567781-for-the-record-ademola-adelekes-inaugural-speech-as-osun-governor.html?tztc=1>.

An overarching style of Mr Governor is his deliberate consultative approach and consensus building on critical decision making. As democracy is not about dictatorship, Governor Adeleke intentionally subjects state decisions to contributions from within and without. I wrote a piece on his approach in this respect. The link is here- <https://www.osunstate.gov.ng/2023/11/how-ademola-adeleke-firmly-govern-osun/>

Many are far from Osun Osun. Today, the Boss Newspaper declared the Governor as the Governor of the year 2023. That was after Champion newspaper did the same few months ago. I invite readers to read why the Governor merits such honour despite being just a year plus in office. The link is here- <https://thebossnewspapers.com/2024/01/06/ademola-adeleke-2023-governor-of-the-year/>.

For a more grounded overview, I invite those interested in governance innovation and leadership foresight to read the Governor's speech when he unveiled a multi-billion Infrastructure Plan for Osun state. The plan now under implementation is a practical demonstration of an ambitious goal of getting state leadership. The link is here- <https://www.osunstate.gov.ng/2023/10/viewpoint-osun-multi-billion-naira-infrastructure-plan-long-overdue-governor-adeleke/>

I will stop here. This maiden piece is mainly to lay the foundation and introduce the focus. It promises to be enlightening and educative with practical examples of public governance issues and solutions.

Thanks for reading

Osun Government Appoints Six New Traditional Rulers, Elevates Eleven Others

By Sola Isola

At its first Executive Council meeting, the Osun state Government has approved the appointments of Six new traditional rulers.

A press release issued by the state Commissioner for Information and Public Enlightenment, Oluomo Kolapo Alimi and made available to newsmen says all the appointments are with immediate effect.

While congratulating and wishing the newly appointed traditional rulers success and peaceful reign in their respective domains, the statement urged all the subjects in their respective communities to give the newly appointed traditional rulers the best of support and cooperation they deserve.

The newly appointed traditional rulers approved by the

Council include the following:

- Prince Haastrup Adeola Ojo as Aloro of Iloro-Ijesha in Atakunmosa West Local Government;
- Prince Mark Adeniyi Ajewole as Onise of Ise-Ijesa also in Atakunmosa East Local Government;
- Prince Adekunle Waheed Babatunde as Elende of Eko Ende in Ifelodun North Local Council Development Area;

Other newly appointed Obas are

Prince Sulaimon Adebayo Olalekan as Olu of Alajue in Ede East Local Council Development Area; Prince Badmos Rafiu Omotoso as Alagbeye of Agbeye in Odo Otin South Local Council Development Area; and Prince Johnson Oyewale Ajiboye as Olola of Ola in Ejigbo West Local Council Development Area of Osun state.

The Council meeting also approved the elevation of 11 more traditional rulers in Osun state to a Part II

(Recognised) Status of the Chief Law, Cap 25, Laws of Osun state, 2002.

The newly elevated Obas include:

Olu Ilu Oba Oyeyemi Town in Egbedore Local Government; Alayetoro of Ayetoro Ijesa, Onikajola of Kajola Bowaje-Ijesa, Olorogoji of Orogoji-Ijesa, in Atakunmosa East Local Government; Onimelu of Ifemelu - Ifewara; Alarunde of Arunde Ifewara; Esemu of Iyemogun (Atakunmosa West Local Government); Olosuntedo of Osuntedo(Ejigbo Local Government) ; Olu of Araromi-Owu; Olu of Akiriboto-Isale(Ayedaade Local Government; and Onijimo of Ijimo-Ijesha.

All the elevations are with immediate effect

The Council however stepped down consideration of the Koka kingship stool, directing investigation and correction of the alleged abnormality and irregularity in the selection process.